

# Montana and the Sky



Vol. 37, No 7

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION

July 1986

## CONTEST WINNER TO ATTEND EAA AIR ACADEMY

Scott Remick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Palmer of Kalispell, has been announced the Montana state winner in the senior division (grades 10-12) of the 1986 Aviation Awareness Contest. Scott is a junior at Flathead High School. The contest, sponsored by the Federal Aviation Administration and the National Association of State Aviation Officials, was administered through the Montana Aeronautics Division.

At a ceremony at the Outlaw Inn in Kalispell on June 30, Governor Schwinden and Aeronautics Board member Mike Strand presented Scott with a Certificate of Achievement and an all expense paid trip to the 1986 EAA Air Academy at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, July 20 - August 5. Tuition for the Academy was provided by

donations from the Montana aviation community made during the Montana Statewide Aviation Conference and the Montana Aeronautics Division's scholarship fund. Northwest Airlines donated his round trip airline ticket.

FAA representative Harold Handke also presented Scott with a special trophy provided by the FAA. Also present at the awards ceremony were Michael D. Ferguson, administrator, and Fred Hasskamp, chief of the Safety and Education Bureau of the Montana Aeronautics Division. Mike Strand is the aviation education representative on the Montana Aeronautics Board.

The EAA Air Academy offers a total aviation program for young people age 15-17 each summer. The students study aviation from the ground up at the EAA Aviation Center in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The Academy offers young people the opportunity to meet and work with aviation professionals while living and learning the arts, sciences, and lore of aviation in both

classroom and workshop settings. It develops leadership potential and broadens their understanding of both aviation and themselves.

(Note: An awards ceremony for Montana's other two contest winners was held in Helena on June 14. That story and pictures will be run in next month's issue.)



Scott's Awards from the winning essay in the senior division include an all expense paid trip to the EAA Air Academy in Oshkosh, Wisc., the tuition for which was paid by donations from the Montana aviation community and the Montana Aeronautics Division. His airline ticket was donated by Northwest Airlines. Governor Schwinden makes the presentation. Pictured with Scott and the Governor are his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Palmer, and brother Ryan.



Mike Strand, aviation education representative on the Montana Aeronautics Board, presents Scott with a Certificate of Achievement.



Scott received a trophy and certificate from the FAA. Pictured here are (from left) Mike Strand, Harold Handke, representing the FAA, Scott, and Gov. Schwinden.



# Administrator's Column

**Taxes - Aviation Fuel.** I recently read about an out-of-state FBO who has cut the BEFORE TAXES price on fuel. I think this is a great way to advertise aviation fuel costs. The taxes, such as federal, state, sales, city, airport, etc., are then itemized and added to the price. This, of course, would do two things: 1) allow the FBO to show that they really are not gouging the pilots, and 2) make the pilots more aware of just how much taxes they are paying and to whom. There could be a third benefit in this, also, which would be to make those charging the taxes be more responsible in managing those tax dollars to assure that they are being spent for the purposes intended. In short, instead of burying the taxes in the total cost of fuel, putting it out in the open so we can be reminded every time we purchase aviation fuel.

\* \* \*

**Aviation User Trust Fund.** Rep. Dan Glickman (D-Kansas) has introduced a bill which will (if passed) suspend the user taxes if the trust fund exceeds \$1 billion. Rep. Glickman has accused the Administration of misusing the trust fund tax money to reduce the national deficit. The Administration has estimated that the Trust fund balance will reach approximately \$9 billion by the end of September. The balance at the end of April was \$7.8 billion. The Glickman bill would immediately suspend the taxes until the Trust Fund drops below \$1 billion. As you know, I have been a strong critic of the misuse of this Trust Fund which we, the users, are paying into for improvements of our airports and airways system. We are feeling the impact of this misuse here in Montana, and I commend Rep. Glickman for his attempts to correct this breach of trust. I certainly hope that we all make our views on this subject known to our Montana Congressional delegation.

\* \* \*

**Aviation Product Liability Insurance.** Montana Aeronautics Board Chairman McLean has urged our Montana Congressional delegation to co-sponsor Rep. Glickman's (Kansas) H.R. 4142 and Sen. Kassebaum's (Kansas) amendment 1823 to S. 100 which both address general aviation product liability insurance. If the liability insurance is not changed, it is feared that the general aviation industry will not survive. Currently, over 35% of the cost of a new aircraft goes for manufacturers liability insurance. The liability suits being filed against general aviation aircraft manufacturers have skyrocketed in recent years to the point where customers cannot afford the added cost and therefore, they simply cannot continue to produce the small twins and single engine airplanes much longer. Severe production cuts have already been made. We need to impress upon our Congressional delegation that general aviation is unique in that the federal government regulates all aspects of it and, therefore, should also regulate liability insurance standards. The AOPA, EAA, National Air Transportation Association, and National Business Aircraft Association have all testified before Congress in support of this legislation. If you feel that the Montana Congressional delegation should co-sponsor and support these bills, let them hear from you.

## Frequency Signs Available

The changing of unicom and runway lighting frequencies has caused confusion among some pilots, especially those who do not receive this publication or other aeronautical information.

Our office has painted wooden signs 12" x 24" with "Use 122.9 MHz" which could be mounted at a conspicuous section of your airport; i.e., tiedown areas, gas pumps, or entrance gate.

Signs will be available at our cost and may be obtained by contacting Jerry Burrows at the Division office - 444-2506.

## NEW CHARTS EXPECTED SOON

The new Montana Aeronautical Chart is at the printers and the Division should receive shipment by early August. Those of you who ordered charts at the time you completed pilot registration this spring will receive yours shortly. Anyone else wishing a new chart can order one by calling or writing the Division. The cost of the new chart is \$3 each.



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## GOOD LUCK, RUTH !!!



Ruth Anderson retired from her duties at the Aeronautics Division at the end of May. She has been a mainstay at the Division since she began work here in January 1977. Ruth handled the filing system and a good share of the work on pilot and aircraft registration as well as numerous other duties as the need arose. She was unfailingly friendly, helpful and efficient and through the years was relied upon by the Montana aviation community and Division personnel alike. She'll be greatly missed, but we wish her all the best in now being able to do whatever she wants to do whenever she wants to do it!

## Air Travel Guides Available

The Montana Aeronautics Division still has some Expo '86 General Aviation Guides available. These guides contain information on licensing and customs, maps, and other information useful for those planning to fly to Expo this summer.

The guides were provided to us by the Canadian Air Transportation Administration. Give us a call at 444-2506 in Helena and we'll send one to you without charge.

The Division also has available a "General Aviation Travel Guide for Washington and British Columbia" published by the Washington State Department of Transportation, Aeronautics Division. These, too, are available from the Montana Aeronautics Division in Helena.

## JUNE SAR ACTIVITY

By: Fred Hasskamp, Chief  
Safety and Education Bureau

Three SARSAT ELT reports were received. ELTs were located in aircraft in or near Opheim, Alzada, and Zortman. Two ELTs were reported that were turned off before they could be located - one in the Deer Lodge area and one in the Laurel area.

Three ALNOTS (alert notices) were received. One was for an aircraft that was later found wrecked in Wyoming. The second was on a flight plan from Cut Bank to Sheridan, Wyoming. The aircraft was located parked at the Hardin Airport. The flight plan had not been closed. The third ALNOT was an aircraft which departed Boise for Dell on a flight plan. The pilot made an uneventful forced landing in Idaho.

A search was conducted for an aircraft whose pilot made a precautionary landing in central Montana.

We are sad to report one fatal inflight breakup, possibly the result of an encounter at night in the Deep Creek Canyon area east of Townsend.

Pilots should be reminded that thunderstorms are one of the most violent weather phenomena known to man. The following is a quote from the book *Aviation Weather*: "The thunderstorm is a local storm which invariably is produced by cumulonimbus cloud and is always accompanied by lightning and thunder. The thunderstorm represents atmospheric convection at its strongest. It could be defined as the ultimate manifestation of the growth of a cumulus cloud. Thunderstorms are particularly dangerous for pilots because many of the most severe atmospheric hazards are found within them. They are almost always accompanied by strong gusts of wind and severe turbulence. Heavy rain showers usually occur, and hail is not uncommon."

## Two New Frequencies

Two more runway light radio controllers have been changed to common traffic advisory frequencies.

Ronan and St. Ignatius are now 122.9 MHz for runway light activation. Key the mike five times in five seconds.

## CALENDAR

July 23 - 24 - Essential air service meeting, Denver.

July 26 - 27 - Montana Antique Aircraft Association Fly-In/Air Show, Three Forks. Contact Bud Hall at 586-6994 or Patti Thompson at 452-8800.

July 28 - 31 - Airports Seminar, University of North Dakota. Call Dawn Botsford at 701-777-2663 for more information.

Aug. 1 - 8 - EAA Fly-In, Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Aug. 2 - Fly-In at Madison Valley Aviation, Ennis.

Aug. 16 - Libby Airport Dedication and Fly-In.

Aug. 17 - Helena Air Show. Features the Thunderbirds.

Aug. 23 - 24 - Big Sky International Air Show, Billings. Features the Freccia Tricolori Italian Jet Team.

Sept. 11 - 14 - Reno Air Races.

Sept. 19 - 21 - Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

Oct. 29 - Nov. 1 - AOPA Convention, San Antonio, Texas.

Feb. 18 - 21, 1987 - Montana Statewide Aviation Conference, Missoula.

## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED



Don Hall, son of Jerry and Laverne Scott of Kalispell, has been awarded a \$200 flight scholarship by the Montana Aeronautics Division. Don is a junior at Flathead High School. He will use the scholarship to pay for flight training at the FBO of his choice. Don's teacher in the aviation science program is Fred Naehrer.



## 1986 TEACHER WORKSHOPS COMPLETED



Larry Welch, aerospace educator from Washington, explains building projects to Aerospace Workshop participants at the University of Montana in Missoula. Other Workshop speakers included: Noel Bullock, regional director for Aerospace Education, U.S. Air Force-CAP; William Horvath, science lecturer from NASA Ames Research Center; Hal Bacon, director of Educational Programs for the CAP out of Maxwell Air Force Base; Edward Dahy, educational specialist for the U.S. Navy; Fred Hasskamp, Montana Aeronautics Division, and various other speakers including FAA personnel, FBOs, flight instructors, etc.



Capt. Lee Wheeler, Great Falls, provided tethered balloon rides for participants at the Great Falls Workshop.



Glen Black, Continuing Education instructor at MSU in Bozeman, demonstrates how to safely launch rockets. Each teacher built rockets and model planes.



Bill Horvath, NASA (left) and Ron Kologi unpack materials at the Workshop in Havre. Ron Kologi has been promoting aviation and aerospace education for over 20 years at Havre.



Larry Welch and Stan Easton (right in background) work with participants at the MSU Workshop in Bozeman. One hundred thirty-three Montana teachers participated in seven Workshops during the 1986 session.



Carol Frederick is the new Workshop director of the Eastern Montana College Workshop at Billings.



Gary Roberts, a reservist with the U.S. Air Force, teaches a session on navigation at the Great Falls Workshop. He also spoke at the Missoula Workshop.



## BITTERROOT AVIATION DAY - JUNE 14



The Hamilton Chapter of the EAA sponsored the fifth annual Bitterroot Aviation Day Fly and Fun Fair in Hamilton on June 14. Several homebuilt, antique, and classic aircraft were on display ranging from beautiful RV-3 to a P-51 Mustang. Committee members above are (from left) Steve Schwartz, Ernie Nichols, Merv Boothe, Bob Switzer, and Tom Reagon.



Ravalli County Search and Rescue and the Montana National Guard had displays. Ron Waterman, Accident Prevention Specialist for Montana, provided vertigo demonstrations. Skydive Montana performed. There was a pancake breakfast and air rides were provided by local pilots.



Members of the Hamilton Chapter of the EAA built a beautiful "pedal Pitts" which was raffled off. Here it is being tried out by a small air show participant.

## Air Show to Be Held in Billings

The first annual Big Sky International Air Show will take place in Billings on August 23 -24 at Billings Logan Field.

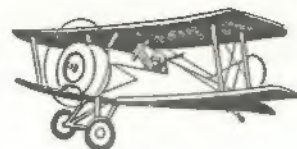
The show will include static displays of both military and civilian aircraft along with several aerial acts. Military planes will include the C-5A Galaxy, F-16, F-15, F-20, and F-111.

Show performers include: the Tahoe Aces from Reno, Nevada; Craig Hosking from Utah who flies a Pitts and is the only pilot licensed to take off and land upside down; Julie and Pat Wagner, wing walkers who use a 450 Stearman; Julie Clark, flying a T-34 military trainer; Bob Sear, doing aerobatics in a Decathlon; and the U.S. Golden Knights Army parachute team.

Featured act of the show is the Frece Tricolori, an Italian military team made up of ten jet aircraft.

Gates are open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. each day with aerial acts scheduled from 10:30 to noon and from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m..

Tickets for the show are \$6 for general admission - \$9 for bleacher seats. Children's tickets are \$2 and \$4 respectively. For further information call 245-4566.



## Hands Across the Border . . .



Alberta and Montana Flying Farmers participated in the fly-in at Whetstone International Airport at Del Bonita on June 7. Pictured above are (from left): Tracy Hueppleshueser, AFF Farmerette; AFF Queen Linda Hueppleshueser; AFF President Doug Hilton; Don Althen, AFF member and unofficial caretaker of the airstrip; MFF President Al Schmitt; and Phyllis Sammons, Queen of the MFF.



## FAA Issues Certificates

### PRIVATE

Rick Trebas	Missoula
James Roth	Kalispell
Larry Kincer	Great Falls
Brian McCully	Eureka
Kenneth Gibson	Bozeman
Pamela Backstrom	Bozeman
Danny Stroud	Three Forks
Donn Schutt	Wolf Point
Dennis Roll	Poplar
Richard Raymond	Forsyth
Dana Anderson	Billings
Dugan Anderson	Kalispell
George Boifeullet	Missoula
Gary Watson	Missoula
Randy Heinrich	Helena
David Stewart	Helena
Dennis Walden	Butte
Janett Auble	Bozeman
Michael Walton	Billings
Melvin Tiensvold	Billings
Jeffery Beck	Great Falls
Edwin Denton	Columbus
Larry Edwards	Billings
Greg Creek	Gardiner
William Hodgkiss	Bigfork
Leroy Keller, II	Kalispell
Daniel Miller	Libby
Blaine Meissner	Chester
J. Blaine Anderson, Jr.	Dillon
Alan Mikkelsen	St. Ignatius
Robin Young	Missoula

### COMMERCIAL

Jeffrey Tachenko	Grassy Butte
Kenneth Fielding	Missoula
David Bruce	Bozeman
Jeffery Wash	Ashland
David Simon	Billings
Mike Bauernfiend	Clancy
Ralph Klawitter	Missoula
Richard Palmersheim	Fromberg

### MULTI-ENGINE

Thomas Melton	Dillon
Tracy Mongeon	Great Falls
Larry Beebe	Bozeman

### INSTRUMENT

John Brown	Havre
John Lutz	Butte

## CONSTRUCTION '86 - CHECK YOUR NOTAMS

By: David C. Kneedler, Chief  
Airport/Airways Bureau

Although the conscientious pilot routinely checks for NOTAMS on destination airports, our summer construction season makes it even more important to do so. With nearly \$9 million in airport improvements slated in Montana, it is a safe bet that many of our airports will unavoidably be temporarily closed during different stages of construction.

Following is a list, by airport, of major work items scheduled for this construction season:

<b>Billings</b>	Land acquisition and obstruction removal and relocation of approach lighting system.
<b>Bozeman</b>	Additional security fencing; construction of blast pads; rehabilitate access and service roads; acquire snow removal and radio equipment.
<b>Great Falls</b>	Construct snow removal equipment building; obstruction removal; rehabilitate runway 3/21; acquire land.
<b>Helena</b>	Rehabilitate taxiways; expand parking apron; drainage improvements.
<b>Kalispell</b>	Rehabilitate parking apron; install security fencing; resurface runway 11/29; expand general aviation apron.
<b>Missoula</b>	Rehabilitate and light parking apron; acquire snow removal and radio equipment; acquire land.
<b>Butte</b>	Extend parallel taxiway serving runway 11/29 and install medium intensity taxiway lights.
<b>Sidney</b>	Acquire snow removal equipment.
<b>West Yellowstone</b>	Reconstruct CFR building roof.
<b>Turner</b>	Rehabilitate runway and install medium intensity runway lights and approach path indicators.
<b>Superior</b>	Land acquisition and obstruction removal; rehabilitate runway, taxiway, and parking apron.
<b>Glendive</b>	Rehabilitate runway, taxiway, and parking apron; install radio controlled medium intensity lights and safety fence.
<b>Dillon</b>	Land acquisition for a realignment of runway 16/34.
<b>Three Forks</b>	Land acquisition; extend and pave main runway and parking apron; install radio controlled medium intensity runway lights.
<b>Ronan</b>	Acquire land for runway realignment.
<b>Stanford</b>	Extend and rehabilitate runway, taxiway, and parking apron; install medium intensity runway lights.
<b>Laurel</b>	Rehabilitate runway 3/21; extend parallel taxiway; expand parking apron.

We hope the foregoing will be of some use to you in your flying this summer. We are confident that the amount of inconvenience we may all experience from time to time will be repaid many times over through the enjoyment of a much improved airport system.

Melvin Tiensvold	Billings
Joan Bross	Billings
David Simon	Billings
Charles Loucks	Missoula
Richard Palmersheim	Fromberg

### ATP

Chris Shoemaker	Billings
Allen Eisenbart	Butte

### INSTRUCTOR

Patricia Wood	Great Falls
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Joseph Scott	Great Falls
Morris Lindsey	Great Falls
Douglas Palm	Missoula
Joan Bross	Billings
Gary Keck	Billings
Theodore Kopp	Glendive
Donald Dolan	Helena
Richard Palmersheim	Fromberg

**Correction:** Last month's newsletter reported that Vern Stanfill of Toston got his private rating. In fact, he received his instrument rating.



# NAV AIDS STATUS REPORT



**By: Jerry Burrows**  
**Aviation Representative**

Our office has assisted many communities with the installation of runway light radio controllers and over sixty communities with unicom. We also have been changing frequencies to meet the common traffic advisory frequency (CTAF) for each airport to meet FCC and FAA guidelines.

Listed below is the current status of Montana's unicom and radio controllers: (Unicom city followed by "RC" indicates pilot control runway lights on same frequency.)

## Unicom Frequency 122.8:

Ashland  
Big Timber  
Brady  
Chinook (Muni)  
Chinook (Hebbleman)  
Chester - RC  
Choteau  
Circle - RC  
Culbertson  
Conrad - RC  
Cut Bank - RC  
Del Bonita  
Dillon  
Ennis  
Forsyth - RC  
Fort Benton - RC  
Nine Quarter Circle  
Gardiner - RC  
Geraldine - RC  
Glasgow Intl. - RC  
Glendive  
Hamilton - RC

Hardin  
Havre (City/County)  
Havre (Sands)  
Kalispell (City)  
Laurel - RC  
Libby - RC  
Malta - RC  
Miles City (Sun. Cr.)  
Polson - RC  
Poplar - RC  
Roundup - RC  
Sand Springs  
Scobey - RC  
Shelby  
Sidney - RC  
Stanford - RC  
Stevensville  
Sweetgrass  
Valier  
W. Yellowstone - RC  
Wolf Point - RC  
**Unicom Frequency 122.9:**

Baker  
Big Sandy - RC  
Bridger - RC  
Broadus  
Browning  
Columbus - RC  
Deer Lodge - RC  
Eureka - RC  
Fairfield - RC  
Fort Smith  
Ox Bow  
Harlowton - RC  
Harlem - RC  
Jackson  
Jordan - RC  
Philipsburg - RC  
Plentywood - RC  
Townsend  
Red Lodge - RC  
Seeley Lake  
Wilsall

## Unicom Frequency 122.95:

Great Falls  
Helena - RC: 118.3  
Missoula  
Billings

## Unicom Frequency 123.0:

Bozeman - RC: 123.6 (future)  
Butte - RC: 123.6  
Glasgow (VIP) - RC

Kalispell (GPI)  
Lewistown - RC: 123.6  
Livingston  
Miles City - RC: 123.6

## Radio Controllers Only 122.9 (No Unicom):

Hysham  
Ronan  
St. Ignatius  
Terry  
Thompson Falls  
Three Forks (future)  
Turner  
White Sulphur (future)

## Radio Controller Only 123.5:

Anaconda

Many of the above airports that do not have radio controllers (RC) have lights from dusk to dawn operated by a photo cell or by FAA personnel. Some airports have no lights. Your airport/facility directory or any current charts and publications will have this information - or give us a call.

## Thunderbirds to Come to Helena

The Thunderbirds will headline the Helena Air Show scheduled for August 17.

Static displays will include antiques and other civilian aircraft along with many military planes.

Aerial demonstrations tentatively include: a vertical flight demonstration by the F-15; landing and take-off maneuvers of the C-130; a low level refueling demonstration between the KC-135 and F-106; a flying demonstration of the A-10 Warthog military tank killer; parachute demonstration by a Special Forces unit; low level pass of a B-52 bomber; and a demonstration of the Sky Crane helicopter.

Gates will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. An aerial demonstration flight will occur about every hour. The Thunderbirds are tentatively scheduled to arrive in Helena about 11:00 a.m. with their performance to take place about 4:00 p.m..

Tickets for adults will be \$3. Teenagers and seniors over 62 will be admitted for \$1; children 12 and under will be admitted free of charge.



## Letter to Airmen

Effective July 3, 1986, Casper, Wyoming, FSS will assume flight plan, NOTAM, and pilot weather briefing responsibilities for Wyoming airports presently served by the Idaho Falls FSS. These airports are Jackson Hole and Alpine. The Casper FSS toll free telephone number is 800-442-2965.

Also effective July 3, Billings FSS will assume these same responsibilities for West Yellowstone. The Billings FSS toll free number is 800-824-7706.

This action is being taken due to a staffing reduction and reduced hours of operation at the Idaho Falls FSS.

The Idaho Falls FSS wishes to thank all aviation users for their support over the last many years and sincerely hopes these changes will cause no inconveniences.

## HERE AND TH'AIR

**GA Executives Testify on Product Liability Damage.** The chief executive officers of major general aviation manufacturers recently appeared before the Senate Aviation Subcommittee and gave committee members details of the damaging product liability situation facing the industry despite its vastly improved safety record. Beech Aircraft President James S. Walsh told the committee that this year Beech's product liability insurance premium will be \$24 million, or about \$80,000 per aircraft sold - \$105,000 per aircraft counting suppliers' liability costs. Cessna Chairman Russell W. Meyer said, "We are on the threshold of seeing an entire industry essentially destroyed because of the uncontrolled impact of the product liability environment which has lost any reasonable relationship to either negligence, proximate cause, or measurable damages." Executives of other general aviation manufacturing companies

told similar stories. They also documented the effects of product liability on employment: today, 4,900 employees work for Beech in Wichita where once 7,600 were on the payroll - in addition, other Beech plants have been scaled down or closed; Cessna employs 6,000 today compared to 20,000 five years ago. General Aviation Manufacturers Association President Edward W. Stimpson called for passage of H.R. 4142 - what he called a "moderate bill addressing only the most severe problems in the general aviation sector. The product liability problem is complex and controversial, but a simple, fair, and balanced legislative solution is needed."

2,500 copies of this public document were published at an estimated cost of \$.29 per copy for a total cost of \$718.40, which includes \$543.40 for printing and \$175 for distribution.

### MEMBER NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AVIATION OFFICIALS

**PURPOSE**—"To foster aviation, as an industry, as a mode of transportation for persons and property and as an arm of the national defense; to join with the Federal Government and other groups in research, development, and advancement of aviation; to develop uniform laws and regulations; and to otherwise encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the several states."



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